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Rec'd: November 8, 1962

10:56 a.m.

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FROM: Sofia

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 194, November 8, 5 p.m.

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PRIORITY

I decided attend Soviet reception last night, having consulted previously with other NATO chiefs. During usual speeches on this occasion, Soviet Ambassador Denisov asserted inter alia "that American imperialism with its unprecedented aggressive action taken recently against Republic Cuba brought world before danger of outbreak of thermonuclear war." In subsequent response, chairman Banev was even more offensive, characterizing US blockage as "bandit-like act".

At this point I felt required to leave. My party, including the Vedelers, had spent about one hour at reception.

Underwood of NY TIMES and Gould of AP, who are covering Congress, have the story and intend to publicize it.

ANDERSON

DT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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